

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 20 without prejudice or disclaimer in favor of new claim 31, and amend the claims as follows:

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) The system floor of claim ~~[[20]]~~ 31, wherein the ~~at least one of~~ the tongue and the groove ~~[[both]]~~ each comprise a milled polymeric material.

22. (Currently Amended) The floor of claim 31 ~~system of claim 20~~, wherein at least one of the tongue and the groove is glued to a core of the at least one of said first and second boards.

23. (Currently Amended) The floor of claim 31 ~~system of claim 20~~, wherein the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic and lacquer.

24. (Currently Amended) The floor of claim 21 ~~system of claim 20~~, wherein the polymeric material ~~has been formed by extrusion~~ is an extrudate before being milled.

25. (Currently Amended) The floor of claim 31 ~~system of claim 20~~, wherein at least one of the first board and the second board comprises a core, the core being formed from wood fiber board.

26. CANCELLED

27. (Currently Amended) The floor of claim 31 ~~system of claim 20~~, wherein at least the groove comprises both milled portions and broached portions.

28. (Currently Amended) A ~~system for forming a surface~~ floor comprising: ~~a plurality of boards, the system comprising:~~

a first board having edges, at least one of the edges comprising a projecting tongue; and  
a second board having edges, at least one of the edges comprising a ~~depressed~~ groove  
having a depression therein, the depression located distally of an innermost portion of the groove;  
wherein at least one of the tongue and the groove is formed by broaching an impregnated  
milled portion, having an angle not possible by milling and the tongue is inserted into the groove.

29. (Currently Amended) A floor ~~system for forming a surface comprising a plurality of boards, the system~~ comprising:

a first board having edges, at least one of the edges comprising a projecting tongue; and  
a second board having edges, at least one of the edges comprising a ~~depressed~~ groove  
having a depression therein, the depression located distally of an innermost portion of the groove;  
wherein at least one of the tongue and the groove comprise a burr-free broached portion,  
such that the at least one of the tongue and the groove are shaped to form a locking joint.

30. (Currently Amended) A floor ~~system for forming a surface comprising a plurality of boards, the system~~ comprising:

a first board having edges, at least one of the edges comprising a projecting tongue; and  
a second board having edges, at least one of the edges comprising a ~~depressed~~ groove  
having a depression therein, the depression located distally of an innermost portion of the groove;  
wherein at least one of the tongue and the groove comprise a broached portion, the  
broached portion having a geometry not capable of being formed by milling, such that the at least  
one of the tongue and the groove are shaped to form a joint.

31. (New) A floor comprising:

a first board comprising an edge, the edge comprising a tongue;

a second board comprising an edge, the edge comprising a groove, the groove defined by an opening in the edge and an innermost portion;

the groove further comprising a depression positioned in a portion distal the innermost portion and comprising a broached portion, the broached portion having an angle sharper than possible by milling,

wherein the first and second boards are joined by the tongue and groove.